Riverside Meadows Academy – KS4 Science Level Descriptors

Grade descriptors for GCSEs graded 9 to 1extrapolated from the Ofqual Grade 2, 5 and 8 descriptors.
Whilst the achievement of a Grade is a pass, a "Good Pass" is indicated as achieving Grade 4 or above.

Subject Strands	
Grade 1	To achieve a Grade 1 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate some relevant scientific knowledge • attempt perform basic calculations • draw simple conclusions from qualitative data • make basic comments relating to experimental methods
Grade 2	To achieve a Grade 2 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate some relevant scientific knowledge and understanding using limited scientific terminology • perform basic calculations • draw simple conclusions from qualitative or quantitative data • make basic comments relating to experimental methods
Grade 3	To achieve a Grade 3 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate relevant scientific knowledge and understanding using some relevant scientific terminology • perform basic calculations with some appropriate mathematical skills • draw conclusions from qualitative or quantitative data • make basic comments relating to experimental methods and suggest some improvements
Grade 4	To achieve a Grade 4 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate some accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding and apply these mostly correctly to familiar contexts, using some accurate scientific terminology • use appropriate mathematical skills to perform calculations • analyse qualitative and quantitative data to draw simple conclusions supported by limited evidence • comment on methodologies to suggest improvements to experimental methods, and simple comment on scientific conclusions
Grade 5	To achieve a Grade 5 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate mostly accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding and apply these mostly correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using mostly accurate scientific terminology • use appropriate mathematical skills to perform multi-step calculations • analyse qualitative and quantitative data to draw plausible conclusions supported by some evidence • evaluate methodologies to suggest improv

Grade 6	To achieve a Grade 6 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate accurate and appropriate knowledge and understanding and apply these correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts, using accurate scientific terminology • use appropriate mathematical skills to perform multi-step calculations • analyse qualitative and quantitative data to draw relevant and accurate conclusions supported by sufficient evidence • evaluate methodologies to suggest detailed improvements to experimental methods, and in-depth comment on scientific conclusions
Grade 7	To achieve a Grade 7 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate broadened knowledge and understanding and apply these correctly to familiar and unfamiliar contexts using accurate scientific terminology • Apply and re-arrange scientific equations to perform complex multistep calculations. • Analyse qualitative and quantitative data to draw detailed
Grade 8	To achieve a Grade 8 candidates will be able to: • demonstrate relevant and comprehensive knowledge and understanding and apply these correctly to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts using accurate scientific terminology • use a range of mathematical skills to perform complex scientific calculations • critically analyse qualitative and quantitative data to draw logical, well evidenced conclusions • critically evaluate and refine methodologies, and judge the validity of scientific conclusions
Grade 9	To achieve a Grade 9 candidates will be able to: • Demonstrate relevant and comprehensive further knowledge and understanding and apply these correctly to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts using accurate scientific terminology • Use and rearrange multiple step mathematical equations to perform complex scientific calculations. • In depth critical analysis of qualitative and quantitative data to draw detailed logical, well-evidenced conclusions which link to further knowledge and examples. • critically evaluate and refine methodologies, and judge the validity of scient